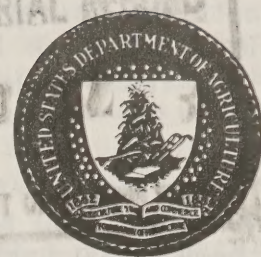


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NORTH CAROLINA



NO. 229

RALEIGH, N. C.

MARCH 29, 1957

PROSPECTIVE 1957 N.C. FLUE-CURED ACREAGE SMALLEST SINCE 1921

On March 1, 1957 flue-cured tobacco growers in North Carolina indicated a 1957 crop of 442,000 acres. A crop of this size would be the smallest since 1921 when 414,900 acres were harvested. If growers carry out their intentions the current crop would be 138,000 acres under the 580,000 acres harvested last year, a reduction of 24 percent, and it would be 36 percent under the 1946-55 average of 692,300 acres. The expected decrease is coupled with cuts in acreage allotments and soil bank acreage reserve - acres banked.

The 1957 flue-cured totals of expected plantings by types are as follows: Type 11, old and middle belts, 170,000 acres as compared to 227,000 acres for 1956 and the 1946-55 ten-year average of 269,300 acres. In the Type 12 area (Eastern Belt), present intentions are for an acreage of 217,000 as compared with 282,000 acres harvested in 1956 and a ten-year average of 337,700 acres. Type 13, or Border Belt tobacco, is expected to be 55,000 acres, compared with 71,000 acres, for 1956 and the 1946-55 average of 85,300 acres. Producers of burley tobacco intend to plant 9,700 acres in 1957 as compared to 9,800 in 1956.

UNITED STATES

As of March 1, tobacco producers expressed intentions to plant 1,131,600 acres of all types of tobacco. Should such an acreage materialize, it would be 17 percent below the 1,366,000 acres harvested last year and the smallest acreage in nearly half a century. As in 1956, all important types are under quotas this year except Pennsylvania Seedleaf and cigar wrappers. Of the types under quotas, flue-cured, fire-cured, Maryland, dark air-cured types 35 and 36, and Con-

(Continued on Page 2)

CROP ACREAGE DECLINE IN 1957

North Carolina farmers indicate a 6 percent reduction from last year in the acreage to be planted to the 10 crops in the March survey of acreage intentions. Excluded from the report are acreages seeded to wheat and rye and acreages to be seeded to cotton. Seedings of wheat for harvest in 1957 were estimated last December at 361,000, down 27,000 acres. Seedings of rye were also estimated last December at 152,000 acres, the same as in the preceding fall of 1955. An estimated acreage planted to cotton will not be made until July. It is known at this time that about 125,000 acres of the 1957 allotted acres of cotton has been placed in the Soil Bank Acreage Reserve.

Smaller acreage allotments plus allotted acres placed in the Soil Bank are expected to reduce the total acreage planted to all tobacco by 138,000 acres or 24 percent. Plantings of corn are likely to decline about 8 percent from that planted in 1956. Other crop acreage reductions are indicated for wheat, oats, peanuts, soybean hay, cowpea hay, grain hay and "other hay". Increased crop acreages are indicated for barley, soybeans, sorghum, for all purposes, alfalfa, clover-timothy hay, sweetpotatoes, and irish potatoes.

PROSPECTIVE CORN ACREAGE DOWN 8 PERCENT

March 1, 1957 prospective plantings of corn indicate that 1,823,000 acres will be planted for all purposes. If these plans materialize, this years acreage will be 159,000 acres or 8 percent less than the 1,982,000 acres planted in 1957. Prospective plantings are the smallest since records began in 1926.

All Crop Reporting Districts indicated a decline except for the Northern Piedmont section of the State which

(Continued on Page 2)

FLUE-CURED *(Continued)*

necticut Valley binder sustained relatively heavy cuts in allotted acreage. Further reductions came about in practically all types as a result of the Soil Bank program.

Flue-cured types are expected to total 662,900 acres, down 24 percent from the 876,300 harvested last year and reaching the lowest level since 1932. Allotments of flue-cured at about 713,000 acres were 20 percent below 1956, representing the heaviest year-to-year cut since 1948 and marking the third consecutive season in which allotments have been lowered. Of the difference between this year's intentions-to-plant and the allotment, about 45,000 acres have been placed in the Soil Bank.

Applying the 1951-55 average yield of flue-cured to this year's acreage intentions, a production of 868 million pounds would be indicated, compared with the current 1956 estimate of 1,410 million pounds. This computation makes no allowance for trend, however, which is an important factor in yield relationships.

CORN *(Continued)*

indicated a slight increase. Corn acreage allotments are in effect in 32 eastern North Carolina counties this year compared with 27 in 1956.

UNITED STATES

For the United States this year's intended corn acreage, at 74.4 million acres, is a 70-year record low. It is 5 percent below the 1956 total of 78.6 million acres planted and 11 percent smaller than average. If this year's corn acreage should equal that indicated, and if yields approximate the 1951-55 average, by States, production would amount to 2.9 billion bushels compared with the 1956 crop of 3.5 billion bushels and the 1946-55 average of 3.1 billion bushels.

Seemingly, soil moisture conditions are somewhat more favorable than at this date a year earlier although much of the Corn Belt still lacks a comfortable subsoil reserve. Farmers in portions of the western Corn Belt, which suffered from drought last year, are apprehensive this season. In marked contrast, prospects in Texas and principal corn areas are reported to be the best in several years.

RECORD SOYBEAN ACREAGE INDICATED

March 1, 1957 prospective acreage of soybeans grown alone for all purposes is estimated at a record 543,000 acres and is 10 percent larger than the 1956 acreage. If the prospective plantings are carried out the acreage will exceed the previous record 1943 alone acreage by 48,000 acres. The current crop is expected to be 39 percent above the 1946-55 ten-year average of 392,000 acres. Estimates of the acreage that will be harvested for beans and for other uses will be made later in the year.

UNITED STATES

Another record acreage of soybeans is in prospect if growers carry out their intentions as expressed on March 1. Indications point to 22.7 million acres to be planted alone for all purposes in 1957. This is nearly 4 percent above the 22 million acres planted last year, the previous high. The acreage of soybeans alone has increased each year since 1949. The Government support price for the 1957 crop of soybeans was announced well in advance of the date farmers reported their March intentions. However, any changes this spring in other Government programs, especially for corn, and the ability to plant other spring crops due to weather may affect the acreage actually planted to soybeans.

U. S. STOCK SHEEP NUMBERS DOWN AGAIN

The inventory of stock sheep and of total sheep continues down. Stock sheep numbers in January were off 2 percent, but total sheep were only 1 percent less because lambs on feed rose 5 percent.

Stock sheep numbers have decreased each year since 1952 except for a very small rise in 1955. The present number is the lowest on record for any year since 1867, except for 1950.

As in other recent years, numbers in Texas decreased during 1956 and those in the East increased. Stock sheep numbers in Texas were down 14 percent this January. They are now 35 percent below 1951. Every State east of the Mississippi River except Virginia and West Virginia either maintained or increased stock sheep numbers this January. Most gains were small, however.

CATTLE NUMBERS DOWN, MAINLY IN GREAT PLAINS

The number of cattle and calves on farms this January was reduced 1.6 million from last year's peak. The reduction brings to an end a 7-year cyclical expansion which saw the annual number rise from 76.8 million in 1949 to 96.8 million in 1956. This year's estimate is 95.2 million.

The reduction was drought-centered. Kansas led all States with a 13 percent decrease. Most other States from Montana and North Dakota on the north to Texas and New Mexico on the south had substantial declines. Arizona, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, as well as several States outside the West, also had fewer cattle on January 1. But numbers increased 1 percent for the United States as a whole outside the Great Plains. The South, which has outrun all regions in the current cycle, has slowed down but not stopped. The Corn Belt has maintained its beef producing herds as well as its feeding enterprise.

CONTINUED CATTLE NUMBERS DECLINE LIKELY

While drought triggered the past year's decrease in cattle numbers, it was not the only influence. The previous expansion in numbers had slowed as early as 1953, and the cow inventory hit its peak in 1955. Even without drought, cattle numbers in some areas had reached the limit of grazing capacity. Also, lower prices for cattle had proved discouraging to producers, and had tended to reduce all cash expenditures in cattle production -- though stimulating non-cash inputs such as family labor. Thus the present downturn bears, in addition to the marks of current drought, some of the features of a typical cattle cycle.

Most cycles continue downward for a few years. This one will probably do the same. The rate of decrease will depend on the weather as well as on other current influences. Present prospects are that the cyclical decrease may be slower, smaller, and perhaps shorter than in some previous cycles. Bases for this view are the stability of numbers in the Mid-West and Southeast, which now account for more of the total production than formerly; continued strong demand for beef; and huge reserve supplies of feed.

LARGE SWEET POTATO ACREAGE

March 1 reports received from producers of sweetpotatoes indicate that 38,000 acres will be planted in North Carolina in 1957. This compares with 36,000 acres planted in 1956 and is 18 percent below the 1949-55 average plantings of 46,600 acres.

For the United States an indicated 282,000 acres will be planted in 1957. If these intentions are carried out the acreage will be 3.1 percent below the 1956 planted acres and 26 percent below the 1949-55 average plantings.

DECREASED PEANUT ACREAGE FOR 1957

According to reports as of March 1, North Carolina farmers intend to plant 185,000 acres of peanuts grown alone for all purposes in 1957. Such as acreage would be 23,000 acres, or 11 percent short of the 208,000 acres for all purposes last year, and 24 percent under the 1946-55 average of 244,000 acres. The first 1957 peanut acreage for picking and threshing will not be made until August.

UNITED STATES

Reports from peanut growers on March 1 indicate that they intend to plant 1,834,000 acres of peanuts alone for all purposes in 1957. If present plans materialize, this year's crop will be only a few thousand acres below that planted in 1956 but 32 percent below the 1946-55 average acreage. These intentions include peanuts to be grown alone for picking and threshing, hogging off and for other purposes.

The first official estimates of the acreage and production of peanuts for picking and threshing in 1957 will not be made until August. However, based on the average relationship by States for the 1951-55 period between acres grown alone and acres picked and threshed, a total of 1,496,000 acres is indicated for picking and threshing this year.

COTTON GINNED IN NORTH CAROLINA

Preliminary figures by counties for cotton ginned from the crop of 1956, with comparative figures for the crop of 1955. Ginnings were furnished by the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce.

CROPS OF 1956 AND 1955

COUNTY	1956	1955	COUNTY	1956	1955
Anson	9,773	13,435	Lincoln	5,981	9,703
Bertie	5,405	3,278	Mecklenburg	4,665	8,689
Bladen	1,293	1,202	Nash	13,383	8,876
Cabarrus	1,932	3,467	Northampton	24,297	17,991
Catawba	959	2,642	Perquimans	980	792
Chowan	2,825	1,336	Pitt	8,735	4,609
Cleveland	25,376	44,828	Polk	1,302	3,260
Cumberland	9,099	8,270	Richmond	2,171	2,785
Duplin	2,293	1,438	Robeson	43,879	38,291
Edgecombe	9,194	4,638	Rowan	2,223	4,685
Franklin	5,372	5,868	Rutherford	3,601	8,762
Gates	1,544	1,151	Sampson	18,943	15,307
Halifax	23,466	15,921	Scotland	19,664	16,716
Harnett	18,195	13,063	Stanly	1,951	2,936
Hertford	4,745	3,342	Union	10,697	18,025
Hoke	9,641	7,537	Wake	2,860	3,127
Iredell	5,291	10,832	Warren	4,973	5,793
Johnston	17,547	11,591	Wayne	10,144	7,355
Lee	2,222	2,125	Wilson	9,906	6,572
Lenior	2,452	1,621	All other	16,927	17,979
			STATE	365,906	359,838

Quantities are in running bales. Linters are not included.

SORGHUM ACREAGE CONTINUES UP

Prospective 1957 plantings of sorghum indicates 112,000 acres for all purposes. This is 110 percent of the 102,000 acres planted in 1956. For several years now, sorghum acreage has been increasing in North Carolina. In 1956 about 80 percent of the total planted acreage was harvested for grain, 11 percent for forage, 7 percent for silage, and 2 percent for sirup.

March indications point to a total U.S. planted sorghum acreage of 26,490,000 acres. This compares with 21,503,000 acres planted in 1956 and is 74 percent above the (1946-55) average.

N. C. LATE SUMMER CABBAGE ACREAGE EXPECTED LOWER

According to preliminary estimates a crop of 4,000 acres is in prospect this year in North Carolina. Acreage at this level is below both last year and the 7-year average by 5 percent and 6 percent respectively. Acreages for all states in the late summer group indicate 19,850 acres in 1957 compared with 20,650 acres in 1956 and 23,140 for the 7-year average. U. S. acreage at the indicated 1957 level would be 8 percent below 1956 and 22 percent below the 7-year average.

HATCHERY REPORT, FEBRUARY 1957

Chicks hatched by commercial hatcheries in North Carolina during February totaled 9,030,000. This is about 4.5 percent below the February 1956 output of 9,553,000 chicks and 37 percent above the 1951-55 average. Of the total chicks hatched in February 7,824,000 chicks were for broiler purposes, and the remaining 1,206,000 chicks were egg-type chicks.

UNITED STATES

Commercial hatcheries produced 177,567,000 chicks during February. This was 11 percent below the 198,903,000 produced in February last year but 2 percent above the 1951-55 average for the month. The demand for broiler type chicks is slightly stronger than a year ago while the demand for egg-type chicks is considerably weaker.

The number of broiler type chicks hatched during February totaled 118,679,000 compared with 114,876,000 in February last year--an increase of 3 percent. The number produced during the first two months of this year was 8 percent more than during the same months last year. A March broiler chick hatch slightly larger than in March last year is in prospect. The number of broiler type eggs in incubators on March 1 was 5 percent more than on March 1 last year.

The number of egg type chicks hatched during February totaled 58,888,000 chicks, compared with 84,027,000 in February last year--a decrease of 30 percent. Production during January and February of this year totaled 90,996,000, compared with 123,321,000 during the same months last year--a decrease of 26 percent. A much smaller hatch of egg type chicks during March than a year ago is in prospect. The number of eggs in incubators for flock replacement on March 1 was 26 percent less than on March 1 last year.

OVER ONE-HALF OF U. S. FARMS HAVE TELEPHONES

For the first time in history over one-half of the farmers in the United States have telephone service. According to a survey 51.9 percent of the farms, or about 2½ million, had some type of telephone service on July 1, 1956. This compares with 49.2 percent in 1955 and 38.2 percent in 1950. The percentage of American farms with telephones has

FEBRUARY EGG PRODUCTION AT NEW HIGH

Production of eggs on North Carolina farms during February totaled 138 million, a new high for the month and one million more than the 1956 previous record high production. The increase in egg production for February is attributed to an increase in number of hens and pullets of laying age per farm. Hens and pullets of laying age totaled 9,231,000 compared with 9,099,000 a year earlier. Production per 100 layers is estimated at 1,492 and compares with 1,508 in February 1956.

RECORD FEBRUARY MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production on North Carolina farms during February totaled 134 million pounds. Production for the month set a record and exceeded the previous February 1956 record by 8 million pounds. Milk production per cow in herd on March 1, 1957 averaged 16.9 pounds compared with 15.0 pounds a year earlier and 12.3 pounds for the 10-year average. The percent of milk cows milked on March 1, 1957 was 75.5, compared with 73.2 a year ago.

SMALL DECREASE IN HAY ACREAGE INDICATED

On the basis of intention reports from farmers as of March 1, the acreage of "All Hay" will be 1,013,000. This is 31,000 acres, or 3 percent below the 1956 acres harvested. Slight increases are expected for Alfalfa, Clover-Timothy, and Peanut hay, while decreases are shown for Soybean, Cowpea, Grain and "Other Hay". Lespedeza hay is included in "Other Hay" and no separate indication is available at this time.

increased steadily since 1940 when only 25 percent of the farms had telephone service. However in the 20 years prior to 1940 the percentage of farms with telephones had declined sharply. The increase of 2.7 percentage points between 1955 and 1956 was the greatest of record for any one year since annual data became available.

PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS FOR 1957

Crop	NORTH CAROLINA				UNITED STATES				
	Average 1946-1955		Acreage Planted		Unit of Yield	Average 1946-1955		Acreage Planted	
	Acreage Planted	Yield per Planted Acre	1956	Indicated 1957		Acreage Planted	Yield per Planted Acre	1956	Indicated 1957
	(000)		(000)	(000)	1956 as % of 1956	(000)		(000)	(000)
Corn, All.....	2,214	29.0	1,982	1,823	92 Bu.	83,942	37.2	78,557	74,410
Oats.....	532	21.5	714	700	98 Bu.	44,158	30.0	44,648	43,514
Barley.....	50	24.3	70	73	104 Bu.	12,132	24.0	14,712	16,008
Sorghums, All Purposes....	56	-	102	112	-	15,191	-	21,503	26,490
Soybeans 1/.....	392	-	494	543	-	14,939	-	21,970	22,745
Peanuts 1/.....	244	-	208	185	-	2,706	-	1,844	1,834
Potatoes, All 2/.....	46.3	-	37.0	38.6	104 Cwt.	1,533	148	1,412	1,421
Winter 2/ 3/.....	-	-	-	-	- Cwt.	23	155	34	46
Early Spring 2/.....	-	-	-	-	- Cwt.	24	130	27	31
Late Spring 2/.....	27.2	101	23.3	25.0	107 Cwt.	204	132	166	171
Early Summer 2/.....	14.0	62	9.4	9.5	101 Cwt.	127	79	101	105
Late Summer & Fall 2/...	5.1	75	4.3	4.1	96 Cwt.	1,156	158.5	1,084	1,068
Sweetpotatoes 2/.....	46.6	57	36	38	106 Cwt.	382	52.7	291	282
Tobacco, All 4/.....	703.2	1,269	589.8	451.7	77 Lb.	1,693	1,273	1,366	1,131.6
Type 11 4/.....	269.3	1,152	227	170	75 Lb.	371.5	1,170	314	236
Type 12 4/.....	337.7	1,338	282	217	77 Lb.	337.7	1,338	282	217
Type 13 4/.....	85.3	1,309	71	55	77 Lb.	209.2	1,313	173	134
Type 31 4/ (Burley)....	10.9	1,690	9.8	9.7	99 Lb.	426.8	1,348	310.4	307
All Hay 4/.....	1,231	1.02	1,044	1,013	97 Ton	74,248	1.40	73,627	72,766
									98.8

1/ Grown alone for all purposes. 2/ 1949-55 Averages. 3/ Includes acreage planted in preceding fall. 4/ Acres harvested.

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR MARCH, 1957

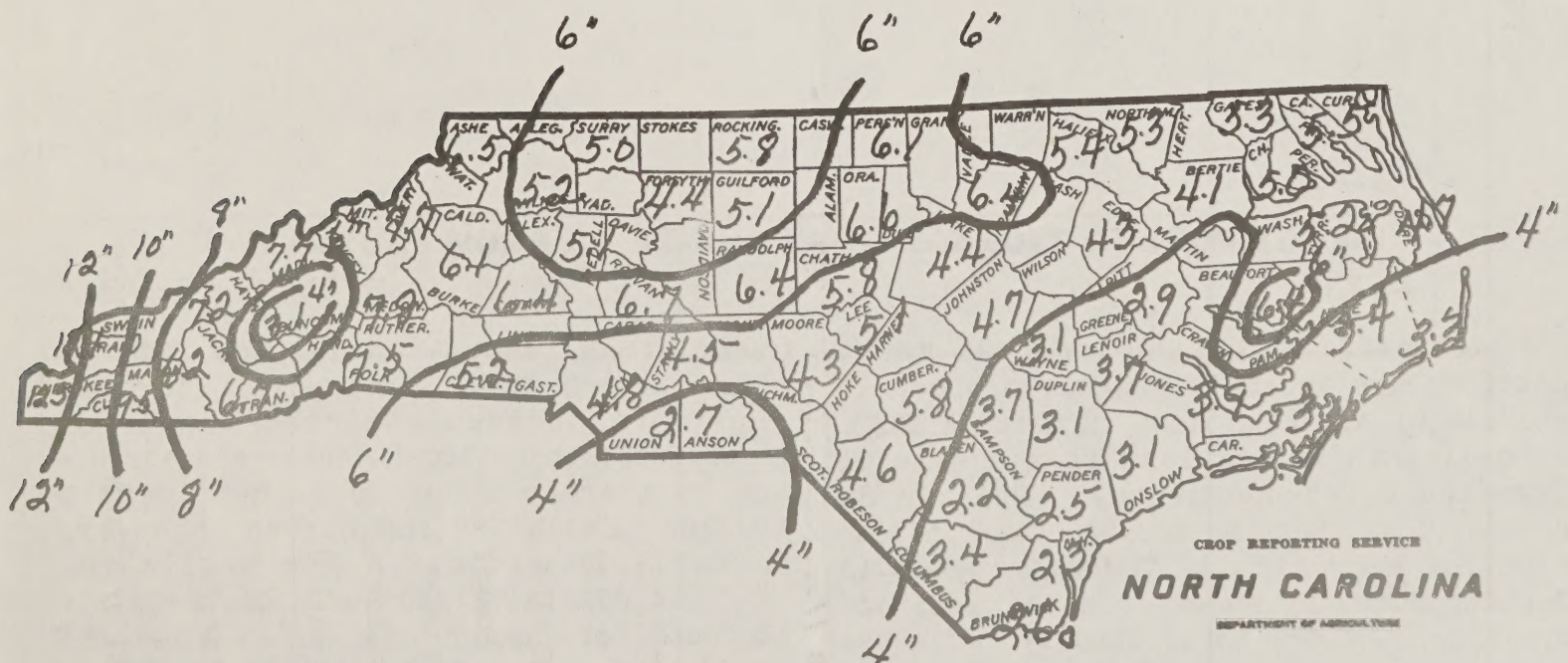
February weather in North Carolina followed very closely the pattern set by January. Heavy cloudiness prevailed, with sunshine recorded ranging from half of the daylight hours at Asheville down to only a little more than one-third at Hatteras. On an average, day and night, about three-fourths of the sky was covered with clouds. The clouds were heaviest and most persistent during the first ten days of February, but there was only one day—the 17th—when there was practically no cloudiness over any part of North Carolina. As in January, the heavy clouds brought very little violent weather, and the rain which occurred was mostly in frequent light to moderate amounts rather than in heavy downpours.

TEMPERATURE: Warm weather for the time of year prevailed during the first ten days of February, and during the last four or five. The highest temperatures of the month occurred on the 4th, ranging up to 80° at some places. Between the two warm periods there were nearly two weeks of cold weather, with little day-to-day change. There were no uncommonly low temperatures, however; at most sta-

tions the lowest of the month was above 20 degrees, and occurred around mid-month. All sections of the State averaged warmer than the usual February average, with the departure from normal ranging from about four degrees in the eastern and central sections to as much as six degrees in the Mountains.

PRECIPITATION: February rains, like those of January, fell heaviest on the western and southern slopes of the Mountains, tapering off eastward to lightest in the southern Coastal Plain. For the most part, stations in the Mountain area had from six to twelve inches. The city of Asheville was an exception, however, with a total of only a little over three inches. In the Piedmont most stations reported from four to six inches, and in the Coastal Plain from three to five. The majority of stations in all general areas except the southeast had greater than normal February rainfall, occurring in numerous small to moderate daily amounts. Few stations had less than twelve days with rain, and many had fifteen or twenty rainy days out of the twenty-eight. Snow was very light and infrequent, even in the Mountains.

INCHES OF RAINFALL FOR MARCH, 1957



Rainfall data furnished
By Dept. of Commerce
Weather Bureau, Raleigh

Charles B. Carney
State Climatologist

FARM REPORT

Compiled by authority of
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SWEET POTATO STORAGE DOWN ONE-THIRD FROM FEBRUARY 1

A total of 340,000 cwt. of sweet potatoes are indicated as having been in storage in North Carolina on March 1, 1957, according to indications from a special farm and warehouse survey. This is 33 percent less than the 507,000 cwt. indication for February 1. The difference is accounted for by sales, consumption, and spoilage. Of the total quantity of sweet potatoes in storage March 1, 196,000 cwt. or 57.6 percent is in commercial storage. The remaining 144,000 cwt. or 42.4 percent is in storage on farms. Grower-

owned stocks amount to 183,000 cwt. of which 39,000 is in commercial storage.

Warehousemen expected losses of March 1 holdings through decay and shrinkage to average about 20 percent. Farm storage losses may run higher; however, no reliable estimates are available.

The Coastal Plains area of the State accounts for 158,000 cwt. or 86.3 percent of all grower-owned stocks. On-farm storage in this area accounts for 120,000 cwt. or 83.3 percent of all on-farm storage for the State as a whole.

FEBRUARY LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER SECOND HIGHEST OF RECORD

RALEIGH, N. C., April __,-- Commercial slaughter of livestock in North Carolina during February amounted to 21,976,000 pounds liveweight, the North Carolina Crop Reporting Service announced today. This production was the second highest for the month on record, falling short of the record high established in February of 1955 by 387,000 pounds, or 1.8 percent. Although the total liveweight of cattle slaughtered was some less than it was a year earlier, the reduction was more than offset by an increase in the weight of the other species slaughtered. By species, the total liveweights of animals slaughtered during the second month of this year was as follows: Cattle 8,149,000 pounds, Calves 899,000 pounds, Hogs 12,918,000 pounds, and Sheep and Lambs 10,000 pounds. Comparable figures for February 1956 were: 8,609,000; 683,000; 12,607,000; and 9,000 pounds respectively.

UNITED STATES

Output of red meat by commercial slaughter plants totaled 2,026 million pounds in February 1957. This was 17 percent below the January 1957 production of 2,436 million pounds and 8 percent below the 2,191 million pounds for February 1956. Commercial meat production includes slaughter in Federally inspected plants and other wholesale and retail plants but excludes farm slaughter.

Meat production for the first two months of 1957 totaled 4,462 million pounds, 4 percent less than the 4,668 million pounds for the corresponding period a year earlier. Compared with the two-month period last year, beef production was up 4 percent, veal output was up 5 percent, whereas pork production was down 15 percent and mutton and lamb output was down 3 percent.

February beef production totaled 1,081 million pounds, 18 percent less than in January and 1 percent less than in February 1956. The number of cattle slaughtered for the month totaled 1,998,600 head, 19 percent less than the 2,473,300 head slaughtered in January, but the same as the number slaughtered in February 1956. February slaughter cattle averaged 974 pounds per head liveweight. This was 1 pound lighter than in January and 7 pounds lighter than a year earlier.

February veal production totaled 107 million pounds, 16 percent less than in January and 1 percent smaller than the output of the same month a year earlier. Calf slaughter for February was estimated at 910,500 head. This compares with 1,067,500 head slaughtered in January and 946,400 head slaughtered during February 1956. Slaughter calves averaged 209 pounds per head liveweight which compares with 214 pounds for January and 206 pounds for February last year.

Hog slaughter during February totaled 5,995,100 head, 13 percent less than the January kill of 6,879,800 head, and 16 percent less than the 7,116,700 head slaughtered in February last year. Pork production in February totaled 778 million pounds, 15 percent below the January output and 17 percent below February last year. Slaughter hogs averaged 231 pounds liveweight in February. This was 2 pounds lighter than a month earlier, but 1 pound heavier than in February 1956. The number of hogs slaughtered this February was less than a year earlier in most states. Delaware and Maryland combined, North Carolina, Georgia and Mississippi killed more and Nevada killed the same as last year. All other states showed a decline. February lard production totaled 198 million pounds, 12 percent under January and 15 percent less than in February last year. The amount of lard rendered per 100 pounds of liveweight of hogs slaughtered was 14.3 pounds this month compared with 14.0 pounds in January and 14.1 pounds in February 1956.

Lamb and mutton production in February was 60 million pounds -- 17 percent below a month earlier and down 6 percent from a year earlier. The number of head of sheep and lambs slaughtered during the month was estimated at 1,220,900 head. This was 18 percent below the January kill of 1,489,200 head and 7 percent less than the 1,318,200 head slaughtered in February 1956. Sheep and lambs slaughtered in February averaged 102 pounds liveweight, the same as a year earlier but slightly more than the 100 pound average in January.

Poultry slaughter in February 1957 was 280 million pounds, ready-to-cook basis. Output was 18 percent less than January, but 10 percent larger than the

(Over)

same month last year and 65 percent above the 1947-56 average for the month.

The reported number of livestock slaughtered under Federal inspection is obtained from the Meat Inspection Branch, Agricultural Research Service.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER*

Species	February				January-February Total			
	Number Slaughtered		Total Liveweight		Number Slaughtered		Total Liveweight	
	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957
N. C.	Thous. Head		Thous. Lbs.		Thous. Head		Thous. Lbs.	
Cattle	11.0	10.0	8,609	8,149	24.0	23.0	18,888	18,779
Calves	3.8	4.5	683	899	8.2	10.7	1,507	2,161
Sheep & Lambs	.1	.1	9	10	.2	.2	17	20
Hogs	57.0	59.0	12,607	12,918	123.0	131.0	27,256	28,438
Total	71.9	73.6	21,908	21,976	155.4	164.9	47,668	49,398
U. S.	Million Head		Million Lbs.		Million Head		Million Lbs.	
Cattle	2.0	2.0	1,960	1,947	4.3	4.5	4,180	4,358
Calves	.9	.9	195	191	1.9	2.0	404	420
Sheep & Lambs	1.3	1.2	134	124	2.8	2.7	283	273
Hogs	7.1	6.0	1,639	1,383	15.2	12.9	3,533	2,990
Total	11.3	10.1	3,928	3,645	24.2	22.1	8,400	8,041

*Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other wholesale and retail slaughter; excludes farm slaughter.

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